

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD BACKS PUEBLO OFFICIALS PLAN FOR DEPOT CLEANUP SAYS TIME FOR DECISION ON DEPOT HAS ARRIVED

Pueblo, CO – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) has sent a letter to Secretary of Defense William Cohen urging him to accept the recommendations of the Pueblo County Board of Commissioners and Pueblo City Council for the destruction of chemical weapons at the Pueblo Chemical Depot.

“After years of delay, the time has come for a decision to be made regarding the destruction of chemical weapons stored at the Pueblo Chemical Depot,” Allard wrote. “The bottom line is that the community is ready to move this process forward and begin the destruction of the weapons in the most expeditious and safe manner.”

Allard sent the letter after receiving letters from the Pueblo County Commissioners and the Pueblo City Council stating their support for the incineration method and asking for his assistance in moving the Depot cleanup process forward.

“It is clear that the Pueblo County Commissioners and the Pueblo City Council have come to the conclusion that incineration is the best method because it is a tested and proven process,” added Allard. “Their conclusion was made after numerous public hearings and much study of the issue. I think it is important to support their decision. I also believe that we have reached a critical juncture in the cleanup process of the Depot and must begin to move the decision making process along. If we do not, we are risking missing the 2007 Chemical Weapons Treaty deadline for destruction of the mustard gas.”

Allard included with his letter Secretary Cohen two November 16, 1999 letters from the Pueblo County Commissioners and the Pueblo City Council supporting the incineration method.

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